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PRESS RELEASE

MAMMOTH FRITZ LANG EPIC "DIE NIBELUNGEN" TO ROCK THE ART MUSEUM

Die Nibelungen, a 1924 German silent film epic by Fritz Lang, will be shown April 4 and 5 at The Cleveland Museum of Art in a newly restored archive print from the Munich Filmmuseum, with live musical accompaniment by renowned organist Dennis James. This most complete version of Lang's spectacle ever assembled lasts five hours and consists of two parts of approximately two-and-one-half hours each: **Siegfried**, showing Tuesday, April 4, and **Kriemhild's Revenge**, showing Wednesday, April 5. Each part will begin at 7:30 pm and admission will be charged each evening.

Lang originally made **Die Nibelungen** as a tribute to the German nation. Based on the 13th-century legend that also inspired Richard Wagner's opera cycle "Der Ring Des Nibelungen," the film was the most lavish and expensive German production of its day--a triumph of studio filmmaking. The romantic, enchanted Siegfried unfolds amid opulent and colossal sets, where the dragonslayer hero Siegfried woos princess Kriemhild for himself and Icelandic Queen Brunhild for King Gunther before being murdered by the treacherous Hagen. Violence and darkness mark **Kriemhild's Revenge**, all passion and movement, as Kriemhild, aided by the Huns, savagely avenges her husband's death in an orgy of fire, chaos, and destruction.

Die Nibelungen will be shown with German intertitles and projected English translation. Enno Patalas, head of the Munich Filmmuseum and supervisor of the restoration work on the film, will introduce the showing on Tuesday night.

A ticket to both parts of **Die Nibelungen** is \$12 (\$8 for Museum members) and can be purchased in advance at the Museum Bookstore or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: The Cleveland Museum of Art, Attn: Film Program, 11150 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH, 44106. Remaining tickets to the whole two-part film will go on sale at the door on Tuesday, April 4, at 6:30 pm. Tickets to either part of **Die**

Nibelungen, if available, will go on sale at 7 pm on April 4 and 5, at \$7 apiece (\$5 for CMA members, \$4 for students and seniors). Tickets cannot be reserved by telephone.

This special presentation of **Die Nibelungen** is co-sponsored by the Goethe House New York and is the latest in the Museum's continuing series of special screenings of silent classics with live music. Previous films included **Nosferatu** and **The Phantom of the Opera**.

In addition to **Die Nibelungen**, the Museum will present five other rarely-shown Fritz Lang films on Sunday afternoons at 3:30 pm (unless otherwise noted) throughout April. Admission is free.

Apr. 2, 3:15 p.m. - **The Spiders**, Germany, 1919-20. Directed by Fritz Lang. Tinted B&W. Silent with music. 140 min.

Master criminals seek to dominate the world in this two-part pulp melodrama: **The Golden Sea** (1919, 57 min.) and **The Diamond Ship** (1920, 83 min.). Restored version.

Apr. 9 - **Liliom**, France, 1934. Directed by Fritz Lang. With Charles Boyer. B&W. No subtitles; synopsis provided. 94 min.

Beloved fantasy about the fall and redemption of an irresponsible merry-go-round attendant. From the Ferenc Molnar play that was also the basis for the musical "Carousel."

Apr. 16 - **The Tiger of Eschnapur**, W. Germany/France/Italy, 1958. Directed by Fritz Lang. With Debra Paget. Color. German with subtitles. 101 min.

Exotic adventure about a beautiful Indian dancer, the architect she loves, and an evil maharajah who covets her. The story continues in a second film next Sunday.

Apr. 23 - **The Indian Tomb**, W. Germany/France/Italy, 1959. Directed by Fritz Lang. With Debra Paget. Color. German with subtitles. 97 min.

The lovers try to escape the clutches of the evil maharajah in this thrilling climax.

Apr. 30 - **Moonfleet**, USA, 1955. Directed by Fritz Lang. With Stewart Granger, George Sanders, and Viveca Lindfors. Color. 'Scope. 89 min.

An orphan boy gets caught up with smugglers, cutthroats, and thieves in this rousing adventure set along the English coast during the 18th century. New 35mm library print from Turner Entertainment Co.